

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 10-12 and 14-18 are currently active in this case.

In the outstanding office action, claims 10-12 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over published US patent application No. 2003/0105641 to Lewis in view of US patent No. 4,993,753 to Weeks. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Briefly recapitulating, the present invention is directed to a data processing apparatus including objective execution means for processing a ticket printing objective action with a higher priority relative to the processing of product sales data. In contrast thereto, Lewis is directed to processing electronic ticket requests. Lewis does not teach or suggest a system for processing product sales data. Consequently, as conceded in the office action, Lewis does not disclose processing a ticket printing objective action with a higher priority relative to the processing of product sales data.

However, the official action further asserts that Weeks “teaches the processing the ticket printing objective action with a higher priority relative to the processing of the product sales data.” Applicants respectfully traverse. Applicants point out that Weeks is not directed to a data processing system. Rather, Weeks is directed to a “self-assembled personalized hidden message device which can take the form of a lottery ticket.” Weeks does not teach or suggest processing a ticket printing objective action or processing of product sales data. At best, the passage found in column 1 lines 13-15 of Weeks teaches that it was known to pre-print lottery tickets before purchase. However, the prep-printing taught in the Background section of Weeks has no relation to the data processing apparatus or the priority feature of the current invention.

For the foregoing reasons, Lewis is not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter defined by claim 10 when considered alone or in combination Weeks. Claims

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11, 12, and 14-18 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 10 is believed to be allowable.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. And early in favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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